

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-7 are pending.

Claims 2-6 remain unchanged.

Claims 1 and 7 are amended herein.

The status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An apparatus for beating and rolling a food dough belt conveyed between rolling members, comprising:

a first rolling member having a plurality of rolling rollers which move sequentially upstream from downstream or downstream from upstream along the food dough belt, while each rolling roller is rotating [on its own] about the axis of the rolling roller,

a second rolling member conveying the food dough belt thereon, and

a control apparatus for controlling the [moving] speed of the movement [and direction] and the [rotating] speed of the rotation [and direction,] of the rolling rollers,

wherein the speed of the rotation of the rolling rollers can be controlled independently from the speed of the movement of the rolling rollers.

2. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the peripheral speed  $V_3$  of the rolling rollers is made to be equal to or almost equal to the surface speed of the food dough belt by the control apparatus.

3. (Original) An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the first rolling member comprises a planetary roller mechanism or a planetary gear mechanism

4. (Original) An apparatus according to any of claim 1, wherein the second rolling member comprises a conveying roller with a large diameter than that of the rolling rollers.

5. (Original) An apparatus according to any of claim 1, wherein the second rolling member includes a conveying roller and a supplying conveyer, and therebetween a space is arranged for releasing gas from the lower part of the food dough belt.

6. (Original) An apparatus according to any of claim 1, wherein the vertical surface passing through the central axis of the first rolling member is arranged upstream of the vertical surface that passes through the central axis of the second rolling member.

7. (Currently amended) A method for beating and rolling a food dough belt which is conveyed in accordance with a plurality of rolling rollers which move sequentially upstream from downstream or downstream from upstream along the food dough belt, while each rolling roller rotates [on its own] about the axis of the rolling roller,

characterized by controlling the number of beats by controlling the speed of the movement and the speed of the rotation of the rolling rollers,

wherein the speed of the rotation of the rolling rollers can be controlled independently from the speed of the movement of the rolling rollers, [changing the moving speed V1 of the rolling roller, and making the peripheral speed of the rolling roller equal to or almost equal to the surface speed of the food dough belt by changing the rotating speed V2 of the rolling roller].